

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CARACA 11069 241456Z

21

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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R 232041Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 641

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS CARACAS 11069

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR VE CU

SUBJ: REMARKS BY CUBAN AMBASSADOR ON CHILEAN REFUGEES

1. CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA, NORBERTO HERNANDEZ CURBELO, HAS DENIED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD REFUSED TO GRANT ASYLUM TO 20 CHILEANS PRESENTLY IN THE VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO. HERNANDEZ INFORMED THE CARACAS PRESS ON OCTOBER 16 THAT IT WOULD TAKE HIS GOVERNMENT 8-10 DAYS TO CONSIDER THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS INVOLVED AND WHETHER TO ACCEPT ALL OR ONLY SOME OF THESE ASYLEES. HE ADDED THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY MORE THAN 1500 CHILEAN EXILES IN CUBA.

2. COMMENT: HERNANDEZ'S COMMENTS TO PRESS WERE IN RESPONSE TO UPI REPORT FROM CHILE THAT FIDEL CASTRO HAD TURNED DOWN REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM FROM POLITICAL REFUGEES IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO AND THAT HERNANDEZ WAS THE MIDDLEMAN ON THIS QUESTION.

THERE IS KEEN INTEREST AMONG VENEZUELANANS ON THIS ISSUE, DUE TO WIDESPREAD CONSTERNATION HERE OVER CASTRO'S TREATMENT OF TWO CUBAN REFUGEES RECENTLY IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN HAVANA (CARACAS 10209 AND PREVIOUS).

SHLAUDEMAM

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Message Attributes

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